Express Mail No. EI109065531US Appress Docket No.: AM-1776

<u>N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

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APPLICANT: Peijun Ding et al.

SERIAL NO.: 08/995,108

FILED:

December 19, 1997

TITLE: A

A TAILORED BARRIER LAYER WHICH PROVIDES IMPROVED

COPPER INTERCONNECT

ELECTROMIGRATION RESISTANCE

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Attorney Docket No. AM-1776

May 19, 1998

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3), applicant hereby requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant is providing herewith copies of the items listed on the attached U.S. Patent and Trademark Office form PTO 1449 equivalent. This Information Disclosure Statement is provided prior to the receipt of an Office Action in the subject patent application. The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 is not an admission that the art cited is "prior art" with respect to the present invention, nor is it a representation that no better art exists. Applicants hereby reserve the right to swear behind or otherwise disprove any alleged "prior" nature of any art cited should the facts support and the situation warrant such an action.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. Express Mail No. EI109065531US in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner of Patents Box DD, Washington D.C. 20231 on May 19, 1998.

Shirley L. Church, Esq., Reg. No. 31,858

It is submitted that the art cited does not constitute a bar to the patentability of Applicants' invention under 35 U.S.C. §102 or § 103.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shirley L. Church, Esq. Registration No. 31,858 Attorney for Applicant (408) 745-1567

Correspondence Address: Patent Counsel Applied Materials, Inc. P.O. Box 450 A

Santa Clara, CA 95052

Attorney Docket No.: AM 76

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APPLICANT: Peijun Ding et al.

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RECEIVED MAY 2 2 1998 GROUP 2500

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May 19, 1998

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3) TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant is supplying the subject Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3). Applicant has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits in the subject patent application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper and any documents which accompany it are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. Express Mail No. EI109065531US in an envelope addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Box DD, Washington D.C. 20231 on May 19, 1998.

Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

Correspondence Address:

Applied Materials, Inc.

Santa Clara, CA 95052

Patent Counsel

P.O. Box 450-A

Applicant believes that there is no fee for filing of an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). However, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 01-1651 of Applied Materials, Inc., Santa Clara California.

This Transmittal Letter is submitted in duplicate for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley L/Church

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Attorney for Applicant

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